

MATLAB:

Plotting Data & Formatting

Written By Abi Chiaokhiao

This lesson assumes you have know or have read the basics.

Files: W2_StartFile.m

Disclaimer: Many examples taken from mathworks.com

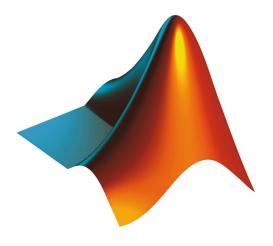


Table of Contents

- 1. Title Page
- 2. Table of Contents
- 3. Line Plots
 - a. Editing Plots
 - b. Uncertainty
- 4. Line Plots (con.)
 - a. Axes Formatting
- 5. Bar Data
 - a. Histograms
 - b. Bar graphs
- 6. Other Data Plots
 - a. Scatter Plots
 - b. Pie graphs
- 7. Overlaid Graphs
 - a. Bar Graphs
 - b. Line + Bar Graphs
- 8. More on Color Formatting
 - a. Colormaps
 - b. Colorbar
- 9. More on Color Formatting (con.)
 - a. Shading
- 10. <u>Functions (pg 1/3)</u>
- 11. <u>Functions (pg 2/3)</u>
- 12. <u>Functions (pg 3/3)</u> & <u>Additional Resources</u>

Line Plots

Editing Plots

Properties

The ln keyword shows you the properties of the given plot

- To access any, use the dot operator: objName. Color \Rightarrow 0 0 1
 - o In can also be used in place of obj Name

To add min & max:

- 1. indexOfMax = find(y == max(y));
- 2. indexOfMin = find(y == min(y));
- 3. Add 'MarkerIndices' & [indexOfMax indexOfMin otherPts]
 - a. A good way to do the otherPts is using colons ⇒ start:step:end
 - i. So if you put 1:2:10, you're saying start at the first point, show every 2 points, until you've gotten to index 10 points (in MATLAB, it starts at 1, not 0 like in other coding situations)

Uncertainty

Adding a Shaded Area of Uncertainty

- Note: make sure the x & y values align in their respective arrays
- 1. Make x bounds: xconf = [xVals xValsBackwards];
 - a. xValsBackwards is done by doing xVals(end:-1:1)
- 2. Make y bounds: yconf = [y+confVal yValsBackwards-confVal];
 - a. yValsBackwards is done by doing yVals(end:-1:1)
- These bounds are arrays that are zipped together to make x,y coordinates
- The reason you have to have one part of the arrays be the values going backwards is so that when each point is made and connected to the next, it is drawn correctly
- 3. Use fill function: fill (xCoords, yCoords, Color)
 - a. Note: if one of the properties is FaceAlpha, you can change the transparency

Adding Error Bars (more <u>here</u>)

- 1. Initialize your x and y values
- 2. Initialize error as an array where each element correlates to a point on the graph
 - a. For error consistent for every point: error = errorVal* ones (size (y))
- 3. Use errorbar (x, y, error) function
 - a. To make them horizontal, add 'horizontal' as a fourth argument to errorbar, if you want both, type 'both' instead
 - b. If you don't want a line, add a marker shape spec (ex: 'o' for circles)

Line Plots (con.)

Axes Formatting (more on axes <u>here</u>)

Changing x-axis Formatting

• To know your x-axis' limits, use xlim

Having Multiple y-axes

- Type yyaxis left or yyaxis right. This will activate having two y axes.
- Depending on the last axis to be denoted (left or right), that is where the following will be executed.
 - Labeling is done this way
 - o If you want to clear one axis, you write cla when that axis is active in your code

Bar Data

Histograms

A type of bar plot that puts data into "bins".

Using histogram(), a vector of data can be sorted

• You can set properties using the object name (in the above case "h")

You can also plot categorical data:

```
Example

A = [0 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 NaN NaN 1 0 0 0...

1 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 1 1 1 1];

C = categorical(A,[1 0 NaN],{'yes','no','undecided'})
```

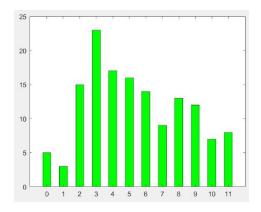
• You can also do other things like create edges to capture outliers, plot multiple on one graph, or plot a line over it. More here

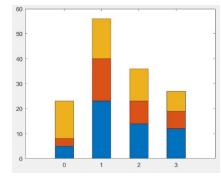
Bar graph

Takes x & y data and plots them in bars

A couple attributes that can be changed are bar width & facecolor

```
Example barX = 0:11;
    barY = [5 3 15 23 17...
    16 14 9 13 12 7 8];
    b = bar(barX,barY, 0.5,
    'FaceColor', 'g')
```





The bars can also be grouped together & stacked

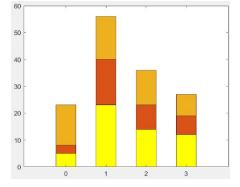
```
Example barX = 0:3;
barY = [5 3 15; 23 17 16; 14 9 13; 12 7
8];
b = bar(barX,barY, 0.5, 'stacked',
'FaceColor', 'flat')
```

To change up colors, the RGB can be set for a stack layer

```
Example b(1).CData = [1 \ 1 \ 0] % Yellow
```

More colors <u>here</u>

Note: categorical () can be used on bar graphs, find that and other info <u>here</u>. There are also <u>3D Bar graphs</u>, a color by height example is <u>here</u>



Other Data Plots

Scatter Plots

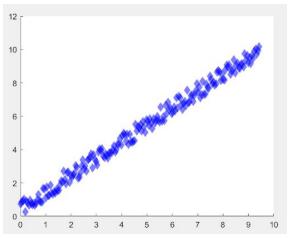
Points of x & y coordinates are plot with no line connecting them.

Starts off with the scatter (xData, yData) function, other attributes such as size, color,

and marker shape can be added.

More documentation <u>here</u>.

• For more customization, the size and the color can be varied over the points by assigning integers (one good way is using linspace())



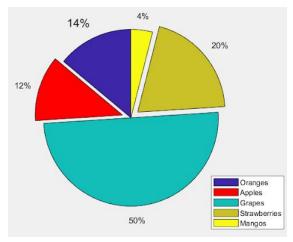
Pie Graphs

Using one vector of data, a pie graph is made with each vector element as a slice.

The base is pie (pData), other things such as exploding slices off & labels can be changed in the function call.

```
Example
```

```
pData = [7 6 25 10 2];
labels = {'Oranges', 'Apples',
'Grapes', 'Strawberries',
'Mangos'};
p = pie(pData, [0 1 0 1 0]);
legend(labels);
p(3).FaceColor = 'r';
p(2).FontSize = 14;
```



The graphics vector interchanges between slice & text, so to access properties of each specific elements need to be called (p (3) & p (2) were examples above).

Some more pie graph documentation.

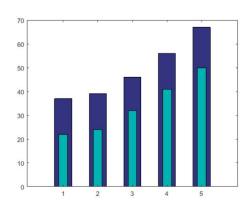
Another cool plot is a <u>quiver or vector plot</u> if you would ever like to play around with those.

Overlaid Graphs

Bar Graph Overlay

If you want to show two bar datas in the same plot to compare them, you can overlay them.

```
x = [1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4 \ 5];
     temp high = [37 \ 39 \ 46 \ 56 \ 67];
     w1 = 0.5;
     bar(x, temp high, w1,
'FaceColor', [0.2 0.2 0.5])
     temp low = [22 24 32 41 50];
     w2 = .25;
     hold on
     bar(x,temp low,w2,'FaceColor',
     [0 \ 0.7 \ 0.7])
     hold off
```



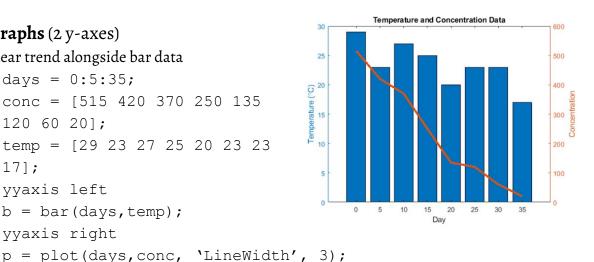
The function categorical () can also be used, more here.

Line + Bar Graphs (2 y-axes)

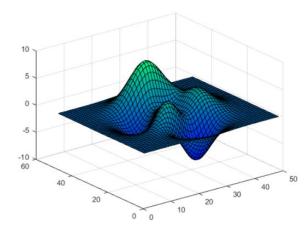
Can show a linear trend alongside bar data

Example

```
days = 0:5:35;
conc = [515 \ 420 \ 370 \ 250 \ 135]
120 60 20];
temp = [29 \ 23 \ 27 \ 25 \ 20 \ 23 \ 23]
171;
yyaxis left
b = bar(days, temp);
yyaxis right
```



Another type is <u>area graphs</u> if you want to be able to make those. There's also the aforementioned <u>quiver/vector plots that can be overlaid onto contours</u>.



More on Color Formatting

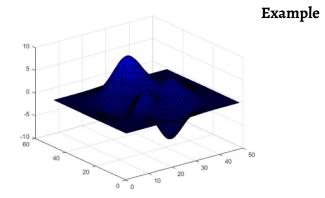
Colormaps

Colormaps are already in MATLAB to give a certain range of color.

Example surf (peaks)

colormap winter

To make your own, have a 3 column rgb matrix and use colormap().



More information and specific colormaps here.

Colorbar

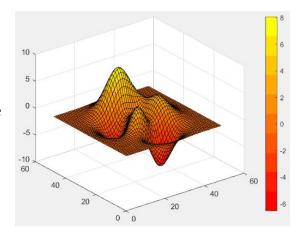
To get a legend, just type colorbar in a line of its own.

Example surf(peaks)

colormap(autumn(10))

colorbar

Note: the number 10 is saying how many intervals using the colormap autumn

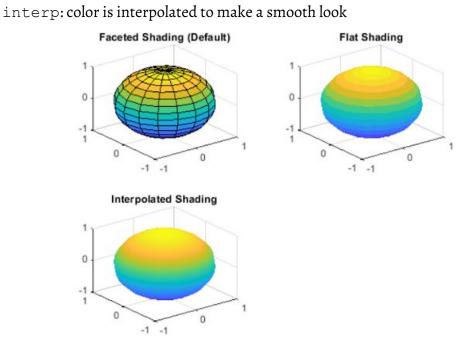


More on Color Formatting (con.) **Shading**

To give different shading effects, the keyword shading is used.

flat: line segments and their faces have similar colors

faceted: each line is a black line, making a mesh



Functions (pg 1/3)

Input	Output	Description	Section
find(value)	Number	The index of value is returned	Line Plots - Editing Plots
fill(xCoords, yCoords, Color)	2-D Colored area	Using an array of x components (xCoords), an array of y components (yCoords), and a linespec (Color), an area shaded with the given Color	
ones(size)	An integer array	An array, all of value 1, is made of size size	Line Plots - Uncertainty
size(val)	Number	Returns the size of val	
errorbar(x,y, error)	Error bars	Using an array of x components (x), an array of y components (y), & an array of error values for each coordinate (error), error bars are made on each point. *Optional: to make them horizontal, have a 4th argument 'horizontal'; for both horizontal & vertical, this would change to 'both'. Linespecs can also be added as inputs	
xlim	A string	Prints the limits and units (if applicable) of the x-axis	
datetime(date)	Number- String- Number	A date is created using date. Can be done like (2020, 08, 19) or other things like ('today'). More <u>here</u>	Line Plots - Axes Formatting
calweeks(startWk: endWk)	An array	An array is created where each element is written in the form of "#w" where the first # is startWk, then it goes up by 1 each element until the number is endWk	
<pre>xtickformat(for mat)</pre>	Format change	The x-axis values are formatted in such a way that format dictates	

Functions (pg 2/3)

Input	Output	Description	Section
seconds(val)	A string	A string which represents seconds is made in the format "val sec"	
minutes(val)	A string	A string which represents seconds is made in the format "val min"	<u>Line Plots -</u> <u>Axes</u>
cla	Nothing	The active code is cleared from the returned data. You can also write the keyword reset after to reset it	Formatting
yyaxis axis	Y axes	Keyword to determine whether you're working on the left or right axis	
histogram(data,)	Plot	Takes data and organizes them in a plot of bins, characteristics can be set in function or later using the object name	
<pre>categorical(data, [#s],{ 'newString1' 'newString2'})</pre>	Remapped vector	Takes data and replaces the corresponding #s with the respective newStrings	<u>Bar Data</u>
<pre>bar(xData,yData ,)</pre>	Bar graph	Each element of xData is made into a bar of corresponding yData height. Attributes such as FaceColor can be added in the function call.	
scatter(xData, yData,)	Scatter plot	Each element of xData is paired to make a point using corresponding yData. Attributes such as MarkerFaceColor can be added in the function call.	Other Data Plots
pie(pData,)	Pie graph	Using pData, a pie graph is made with each vector element as a slice.	
colormap map	Plot coloring	Keyword to use predetermined color schemes map on a plot.	More on Color Formatting

Functions (pg 3/3)

Input	Output	Description	Section
colormap(map)	Plot coloring	Function to use a predetermined color scheme in place of map, or a customized one.	More on
colorbar	A colorbar	A color legend bar is added to an existing plot.	Color Formatting
shading type	Plot shading	Keyword to change the shading of a plot according to type.	

Additional Resources

In Document

Resource	Description	Section		
Line Specs	Line specifications that can be used when plotting lines			
Line Properties	Line properties that can be used when plotting lines	<u>Line Plots</u>		
Color Specs	Specifications for when changing/using color	A		
rgbColorCode.com	An RGB converter (use the ones with values 0-1)			
Plotting imaginary & complex data				
More MATLAB plot types				